



Office of the Treasurer of State

200 W. Washington St Suite 242
Indianapolis, IN 46204

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA (March 21st, 2016) – Treasurer of State Kelly M. Mitchell announced today that the Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Program has been signed into law by Governor Pence.

“With the Indiana ABLE program, individuals with disabilities, their family members and others can contribute funds to a tax-exempt ABLE account without affecting the individual’s eligibility for state and federal benefits,” said Treasurer Mitchell. “Those funds can then be used for a wide variety of expenses.”

The Stephen A. Beck Achieving a Better Life Experience Act became federal law on December 19th, 2014. The ABLE Act permits a state to implement a qualified ABLE program and establish ABLE accounts for individuals with disabilities that meet certain criteria. "SEA 11 is an important step in helping disabled Hoosiers with health care and housing needs," State Sen. Luke Kenley (R-Noblesville) said. "We understand the extra costs associated with a disability, and this bill gives families an opportunity to save money without having to worry about losing the benefits on which they depend."

For the first time, this piece of legislation will allow individuals living with a disability to build assets. “By providing people with disabilities a way to save for their future needs, ABLE accounts will foster self-sufficiency and dignity. It was an honor to work with Treasurer Mitchell and The Arc of Indiana and others on this important legislation,” Representative Ed Clere (R-New Albany) said.

The development of Senate Enrolled Act 11 included numerous stakeholders including The Arc of Indiana, thirty legislators, the Family and Social Services Administration, and the Office of Governor Mike Pence. “The Arc of Indiana appreciates the leadership of Treasurer Mitchell on this landmark piece of legislation. People with disabilities will now have a new tool to save money to help them gain independence and have a new outlook on life. This is a great day for people with disabilities and their families,” said Kim Dodson, Executive Director of The Arc of Indiana.

The ABLE Program will be administered by the Indiana State Treasurer’s Office.

Senate Enrolled Act 11 authors and co-sponsors

Senator Luke Kenley
Senator Erin Houchin
Senator Brandt Hershman
Senator Jean Breaux

Senators John Broden
Senator Ronald Grooms
Senator James Buck

Senator Ed Charbonneau
Senator Lonnie Randolph
Senator Liz Brown
Senator Pat Miller
Representative Ed Clere
Representative Julie Olthoff
Representative Timothy Brown
Representative Donna Schaibley
Representative Ronald Bacon
Representative Eric Koch
Representative Sheila Klinker
Representative Vanessa Summers

Representative Wendy McNamara
Representative Holli Sullivan
Representative Gail Riecken,
Representative Cherrish Pryor
Representative Gregory Porter
Representative David Niezgodski
Representative Daniel Leonard
Representative Peggy Mayfield
Representative Matthew Lehman
Representative Bill Fine
Representative Jeff Ellington

Contact Caitlin Larson: clarson1@tos.in.gov
Communications Director
Office of the Treasurer of State
200 W. Washington St Suite 242
Indianapolis, IN 46204
O: (317) 232-6387
C: (317) 473-1931